

THE  
Rural District Council  
OF  
Halesowen.



Annual Report

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OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
For 1904.

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HALESOWEN :

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THE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF  
HALESOWEN.

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**Chairman :**  
MR. WILLIAM GREEN.

**Vice=Chairman :**  
MR. G. HADLEY.

**Members :**

Mr. JOHN BLOOMER.	MR. JOHN JONES.
„ C. H. CLEWES.	„ B. MARSLAND.
„ F. E. CUTLER.	„ G. B. PARKES.
MISS E. M. FINEY.	„ WM. WILLIAMS.

MR. F. HIPKISS.

**Medical Officer of Health :**  
T. BRETT YOUNG, M.D., BRUX., M.R.C.S., ENG.  
L.R.C.P., & S., EDIN.

**Public County Analyst :**  
C. C. DUNCAN, F.I.C.S., F.C.S..  
WORCESTER.

**Clerk :**  
E. H. GROVE.

**Surveyor :**  
W. WHITWORTH.

**Sanitary Inspectors :**  
J. RUSSELL. W. WHITWORTH.

# REPORT

From January 1st to December 31st, 1904.



To the Chairman and Members of the Halesowen  
Rural District Council.

MISS FINEY & GENTLEMEN,

**Births.** The number of births registered during the year was 849 (437 males and 412 females) giving a birth-rate for the district of 36·0 compared with 36·8 for the previous year.

**Deaths.** The number of deaths registered during the same period was 353 (175 males and 178 females) giving a death rate of 14·9 compared with 16·1 for the preceding year.

Of 4 deaths which occurred at the Stourbridge Union and 6 which occurred at the General & Queen's Hospitals, Birmingham, of persons belonging to the Halesowen District, be included, and 4 at the Isolation Hospital, Hayley Green. of persons not belonging to the district, be excluded, the real death-rate is shewn to be 15·2.

Subjoined are comparative statistics for the different localities of the district with regard to the :—

- (a). Population.
- (b). Birth-rate.
- (c). Death-rate.
- (d). Zymotic death-rate and
- (e). Infantile Mortality.

Locality.	Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zy. d'th-rate.	Inf. Mort.
Cakemore	2,294	49·6	23·5	3·0	245
Cradley	6,722	36·4	13·0	1·1	130
Halesowen	4,057	31·7	17·7	1·7	193
Hasbury	3,405	30·8	11·1		85
Hawne	1,463	38·9	10·8		105
Hill	3,999	37·7	27·0	3·0	178
Illey	131	22·9			
Lapal	361	13·8	5·5		
Lutley	168	2·38	23·2	11·8	250
Quinton	974	37·8	13·3	1·0	27

**Notifiable  
Infectious  
Disease.**

Fortunately, there has been an entire absence of Small Pox during the Year. It is a matter for regret, however, that should a case or cases occur, no provision exists for their isolation.

**Diphtheria.**

There were 10 cases of this disease during the year compared with 5 for the preceding year. Of these one case occurred at Cakemore, one at Cradley, four at Halesowen, two at Hawne, one at Hill and one at Lapal.

The case occurring at Lapal was the only one removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There were three deaths from Diphtheria—one at Cakemore; one at Cradley and one at Halesowen.

**Membranous  
Croup.**

One case only was notified, and this was at Cakemore.

**Scarlet  
Fever.**

There has been an epidemic of this disease during the year, affecting chiefly Cakemore and Hill, and to a less extent Halesowen, Hasbury, and Quinton. It commenced at the beginning of the year and attained



its maximum about August and September. Altogether there were 140 cases. The largest number were notified in the locality of Hill, viz:—55. Cakemore came next with 42. The next largest number occurred at Halesowen, viz:—11. There were eight each at Hasbury and Quinton, six at Cradley, six at Hawne, three at Lapal, and one at Lutley.

The cases removed to Hospital numbered 107—41 from Hill, 35 from Cakemore, 7 from Hasbury, 6 each from Halesowen and Hawne, 5 each from Cradley and Quinton and 2 from Lapal.

There were five deaths, three of which occurred at Hill, and two at the Isolation Hospital, Hayley Green—one of a patient from Cakemore and One from Hasbury.

At the height of the epidemic, the resources of the Hospital were quite unequal to the demand, and for about three weeks cases had to be refused admission.

This district is very unfortunately circumstanced with regard to the stoppage of notifiable infectious disease, inasmuch, as in two sides it has for its neighbours two authorities who have no provision and make no attempt at the isolation of Scarlet Fever. Added to this it was found that Scholars from a neighbouring district, where Scarlet Fever was prevalent, were coming to a School in the Halesowen District.

**Erysipelas.** There was an increase in the number of cases of this disease compared with 1903. 20 cases were notified compared with 15 for the previous year. Eleven occurred at Cradley, four at Halesowen, two at Hasbury, and one each at Cakemore, Hawne and Hill. There was one death at Cradley.

**Enteric Fever.** Ten cases were notified compared with eleven for 1903. Of these, six occurred at Cradley, three at Hasbury, and one at Cakemore. Seven of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital—five from Cradley,

and two from Hasbury. The infection in the Cakemore case was contracted outside the district. There was no obvious source of infection in connection with the surroundings of the other cases.

**Puerperal  
Fever.**

One case only of this disease was notified, and was at Cradley. It is to be hoped that with the registration of Midwives, more care and cleanliness will be exercised. There is no doubt that as special training for registration becomes obligatory, a better state of things will prevail than has hitherto obtained.

**Whooping  
Cough.**

Following on the epidemic of Measles which prevailed last year came an epidemic of Whooping Cough which resulted in twenty deaths. Of these, six occurred at Cakemore, two at Cradley, five at Halesowen, six at Hill and one at Quinton.

**Diarrhœa  
and  
Enteritis.**

Thirty deaths were registered from these diseases compared with thirty-six for 1903. They were distributed as follows:—Cakemore six, Cradley eight, Halesowen four, Hasbury three, Hawne three, Hill six.

The ages were twenty-five under one year, three under five years, one under fifteen, and one from twenty-five to sixty-five.

**Phthisis.**

Nine cases only of this disease were registered compared with twenty for the previous year. Two at Cakemore, three at Cradley, one each at Halesowen, Hawne, Hill, and Quinton.

**Measles.**

The epidemic of Measles of last year continued into this, with the result that at the beginning of the year there were eight deaths—Four at Cradley, One at Halesowen, and Three at Hill.

**House  
Accommod-  
ation.**

At present this appears to be ample. In consequence of shortness of work and the resulting poverty, there is some tendency to overcrowding—a large family going into a small cottage, and sometimes two

families living in one cottage. The Sanitary Inspectors are constantly on the look-out for this.

**Excrement disposal.**

It would be a great gain to the populous parts of the district where a constant service water supply and sewers exist, if the whole of the privy middens were converted into water-closets. There is no doubt that the old-fashioned privy midden, in popular localities, is an important feature in the production of diseases of the Diarrhœa and Zymotic Enteritis type, as is evidenced by the fact that all of the deaths registered from these causes, occurred in the Urban-like parts of the district. I am quite certain that in attempting to reduce the death-rate some advance must be made in the direction of removing these centres of soil and air pollution.

**Removal and disposal of House refuse.**

This for the main part finds its way into the ash-pit attached to the privy midden, and is removed only when the ashpit is emptied.

**Water Supply.**

For the greater part of the district this is quite satisfactory.

**Factories & Workshops**

Every attention is being given to the sanitary condition of these, and with some few exceptions, in which there has been difficulty in getting proper sanitary accommodation, they are satisfactory. Section 22 of the Public Health Act's Amendment Act 1890 has been adopted by the District Council, and its provisions are being enforced in the way of providing sufficient sanitary accommodation, and also separate accommodation for the sexes.

**Dairies, Cowsheds, & Milkshops.**

These are all registered, and regularly inspected, and have been vastly improved during the past few years.

Appended will be found the Sanitary Inspectors' Reports, and the usual Statistical Tables.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BRETT YOUNG.



# Annual Reports

of Medical Officer of Health for 1904, for the Rural District of Halesowen and the Parish of Cradley.

## Halesowen.

### 1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES			
(Including Factory Laundries)	36	4	Nil.
WORKSHOPS			
(Including Workshop Laundries)	450	24	Nil.
Total	486	28	Nil.

Homeworkers' Premises are including in the above.

### 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness ...	65	65
Sanitary accommodations { insufficient ...	6	6
{ unsuitable or defective	5	3
{ not separate for sexes	4	2
	80	76

### 3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	7
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	3
Homework—Lists received ...	2
Outworkers ...	28
Cases of Infectious Disease notified in homeworker's premises ...	1
Total number of workshops on Register ...	205

**Cradley.****1.—INSPECTION.**

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR  
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

			Inspections
WORKSHOPS			
(Including Workshop Laundries)	...	...	284
	Total	-	<u>284</u>

Practically the whole of the Workshops are more or less domestic workshops engaged in Nail and Chain Trade.

**2.—DEFECTS FOUND.**

In 1903 the whole of the Workshops were limewashed, and in 1904 were still in a clean condition.

**3.—OTHER MATTERS.**

List of Outworkers* (S. 107):—	...	...	69*
Addresses of Outworkers received from other Authorities			11
*Principally engaged in Nail and Chain Trade and were already entered on Register.			
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904			284



TABLE I. Vital Statistics for the Whole District during 1904 and previous Years in the Halesowen Rural District.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the Dist.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.		Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.				Number.	Rate.
		Number.	Rate.		Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.				
1897 ..	21963	825	34.6		111	134	316	14.3		1	317	14.4
1898 ...	22551	827	36.6		136	164	361	16.0		5	366	16.2
1899 ...	23519	879	27.3		148	168	333	14.1		6	339	14.4
1900 ...	25844	865	34.2		105	121	345	13.3		1	346	13.3
1901 ...	23574	886	37.5		153	171	386	16.3		15	401	17.0
1902 ...	23574	855	36.0		91	106	307	13.0	6	5	306	12.9
1903 ...	23574	868	36.8		140	161	380	16.1	6	12	386	16.3
Averages for years 1897-1903 }	23514	855	34.7		126	146	347	14.7		6	353	14.9
1904 ..	23574	849	36.0		129	151	353	14.9	4	10	359	15.2

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)—6114.

Total population at all ages	...	23574
Number of inhabited houses	...	4649
Average number of persons per house		5

At Census of 1901

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Stourbridge & Halesowen Joint Isolation Hospital.

Outside

Other Institutions. the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District—Stourbridge Union Workhouse.

Is the Union Workhouse within the district ? No.

the District—Stourbridge Union Workhouse.

Queen's and General Hospitals, Birmingham.

**TABLE II. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years, in the Halesowen Rural District.**

Names of Localities.	CAKEMORE.				CRADLEY.				HALESOWEN.				HASBURY.				HAWNE.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.																				
1897 ..	1445	63	24	9	6330	218	100	34	4135	135	52	19	3020	119	55	24	1420	63	21	7
1898 ...	1512	65	25	11	6434	280	111	46	4223	121	60	21	3054	125	54	16	1502	57	30	13
1899 ..	1580	84	34	17	6540	233	110	52	4312	150	47	16	3090	137	50	23	1585	61	17	9
1900 ...	2542	101	34	15	7102	245	116	32	4883	137	60	19	3485	125	41	12	1580	57	20	3
1901 ..	2294	115	49	22	6722	226	131	43	4057	139	71	26	3405	136	45	20	1463	68	35	13
1902 ..	2294	94	45	12	6722	231	89	26	4057	138	50	12	3405	112	39	11	1463	56	9	2
1903 ...	2294	88	31	15	6722	247	103	40	4057	134	86	25	3405	127	57	24	1463	61	20	2
Averages of years 1897 to 1903	1994	87	35	14	6653	249	108	39	4246	138	61	19	3266	126	48	19	1496	60	22	7
1904	2294	114	54	28	6722	245	88	32	4057	129	72	25	3405	105	38	9	1463	57	16	6



**TABLE II. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years, in the Halesowen Rural District.**

Names of Localities.	HILL.				ILLEY.				LAPAL.				LUTLEY.				QUINTON.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1897 ..	4055	156	43	15	88	3	2		365	13	3	1	175	6	2		930	29	14	
1898 ...	4238	131	66	26	88	3			374	14	2		176	8	1		950	33	12	
1899 ...	4750	167	56	23	90	6	1	1	422	11	4	1	180	5			970	25	14	
1900 ...	4510	157	50	17	108	3	2		353	8	7	2	192	4	2	1	1089	28	14	
1901 ..	3999	157	53	23	131	5	1		361	9	4	3	168	5	1		974	26	11	
1902 ...	3999	172	58	23	131	5	1		361	7	3	1	168	7	2	1	974	29	10	
1903 ...	3999	163	60	26	131	2	2	1	361	10	3		168	5	5		974	31	19	
Averages of years 1897 to 1903	4221	158	55	22	110	4	1	.3	371	10	4	1	175	6	2	.3	980	29	13	
1904	3999	151	72	27	131	3			361	5	2		168	4	4	1	974	37	13	

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904  
Halesowen Rural District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.								NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.										
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	Ages—Years.					Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen.	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Lapal.	Lutley.	Quinton.	Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen.	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Lapal.	Quinton.	
			1—5.	5—15.	15—25.	25—65.	65 and upwards.																		
Diphtheria ...	10	1	2	4	2	1	1	1	4		2	1	1	1										1	
Membranous Croup	1		1				1																		
Erysipelas ...	20	1	2	1	3	11	1	11	4	2	1	1													
Scarlet Fever ...	140	3	52	76	6	3	42	6	11	8	6	55	3	1	8	35	5	6	7	6	41	2	5		
Enteric Fever...	10			3	4	3	1	6		3							5	2							
Puerperal Fever ...	1					1		1																	
Totals ...	182	5	57	84	15	19	46	25	19	13	9	57	4	1	8	35	10	6	9	6	41	3	5		

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—Stourbridge & Halesowen Joint Isolation Hospital.

TABLE IV.

**Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1904,  
in the Rural District of Halesowen.**

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all Ages.								Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Cakemore.	Cradley.	Halesowen.	Hasbury.	Hawne.	Hill.	Lapal.	Lutley.		Quinton.
Measles .. .	8	3	4	1					4	1			3				2
Scarlet Fever ..	5	1	3	1									3		2		
Whooping Cough	20	13	7					6	2	5			6			1	
Diphtheria&Membranous Croup	3	1	1	1				1	1	1							2
Enteritis .. ..	30	25	3	1		1		6	8	4	3	3	6				
Erysipelas ..	1						1		1								
Phthisis .. ..	9				4	5		2	3	1		1	1			1	1
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	7	2	2	1		2			4		1		2				
Cancer, Malignant Disease	13					8	5	2	3	1	3	2	1			1	
Bronchitis ..	73	22	25			11	15	14	20	11	8	2	15	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia ..	14	1	6	2		5		2	6	3	1		2				
Pleurisy .. ..	2					2				2							
Alcoholism																	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	3					3		1		2							
Premature Births	18	18						3	7	7	1						
Diseases & Accidents of parturition	1					1			1								2
Heart Diseases..	29	1	1		1	11	15	2	6	8	2	1	7	1		2	
Accidents ..	4	2	1				1	2								2	
Suicides .. ..	1					1		1									4
All other causes	118	40	15	3	3	16	41	12	22	26	19	7	26		1	5	
All causes ..	359	129	68	10	8	66	78	54	88	72	38	16	72	2	4	13	12

# REPORT OF INSPECTOR RUSSELL.

No. of cases of Infectious Disease enquired into	...	156
„ houses disinfected and cleansed (disinfected 156, cleansed 79)	... ..	235
„ patients removed to Hospital	... ..	105
„ Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected or destroyed		99
„ Cases of illegal exposure reported	... ..	Nil
„ houses erected	... ..	86
„ „ made fit for habitation	... ..	35
„ „ closed as unfit for habitation	... ..	3
„ „ cleansed and lime-washed	... ..	79
„ overcrowding cases abated	... ..	6
„ house-drains laid or relaid	... ..	No record
„ „ cleansed, trapped and ventilated		„
„ defective waste-pies rectified	... ..	„
„ insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	... ..	12
„ dumb wells rectified	... ..	Nil
„ additional W.C's. provided	... ..	87
„ Water Closets repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns	... ..	10
„ additional ashpits provided	... ..	62
„ privies and ashpits converted to W.C's. or slop-closets		14
„ „ „ „ „ pail-closets	... ..	Nil
„ „ „ repaired (36 privies and 35 ashpits)		71
„ new dust receptacles provided	... ..	Nil
Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	... ..	9,420
„ „ privies and ashpits cleansed (privies 8,340, ashpits 4,535)	... ..	12,875
„ „ portable receptacles cleansed	... ..	3,488
„ „ loads of ashes and excrement removed	}	11,127
„ „ „ refuse		



No. of smoke nuisances under observation	...	...	1
„ „ „ abated	...	...	Nil
„ offensive trades under observation	...	...	2
„ „ „ improperly conducted	...	...	Nil
„ wells sunk	...	...	Nil
„ wells cleansed and repaired	...	...	3
„ wells closed as polluted	...	...	3
„ houses supplied from waterworks (during year)	..		106
12 Samples tested by Dr. Young, 8 good and 4 bad, and 1			
by County Analyst (bad)	...	...	13
No. of slaughter-houses registered or licensed		...	7
„ „ regularly inspected	...	...	7
„ „ cleansed and repaired		...	7
„ Factories and Workshops under inspection		...	223
„ „ „ certified for lime-washing by			
Inspector	...		45
„ „ „ of insanitary conditions dealt			
with as nuisances	...	...	20
„ „ Workshops employing “young persons,” &c.,			
reported to Medical Officer of Health	...		Nil
„ shops under supervision	...	...	Nil
„ contraventions of Act dealt with	...	...	Nil
„ persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and			
under supervision	...	...	40
„ contraventions of Acts, Orders and Byelaws dealt with			36
„ infected milk supplied, reported by Inspector	...		Nil
„ Canal Boats on Register	...	...	Nil
„ „ Registered during year	...	...	Nil
„ certificates renewed	...	...	Nil
„ Canal Boats inspected (for registration or otherwise)			5
„ contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with			Nil
„ Lodging Houses on Register	...	...	2
„ „ regularly inspected	...	...	2
„ „ cleansed and repaired	...	...	2
„ food seizures as unfit for consumption	...	...	Nil
„ samples taken for analysis	...	...	Nil
„ „ certified genuine	...	...	Nil

No. of samples certified adulterated	...	...	...	Nil
„ cases of removal, on notice, of animals kept so as to be nuisance	...	...	...	43
„ removals of accumulation of offensive refuse	...	...	...	45
„ legal proceedings taken	...	...	...	Nil
„ convictions obtained	...	...	...	Nil
„ of cases withdrawn or dismissed	...	...	...	Nil
„ official letters written	...	...	...	366
„ notices served	...	...	...	97
„ „ complied with	...	...	...	84
„ „ outstanding	...	...	...	13

Signed,

JOSEPH RUSSELL,

*February 2nd, 1905.**Sanitary Inspector.*

## REPORT OF WILLIAM WHITWORTH.

No. of cases of Infectious disease enquired into	...	25
„ houses disinfected and cleansed	... ..	25
„ patients removed to Hospital	... ..	10
„ lots of bedding, clothing. &c., disinfected or destroyed		14
„ houses erected (if information obtainable)	..	39
„ „ cleansed and lime-washed—no accurate record has been kept.		
„ overcrowding cases abated	... ..	3
„ house-drains cleansed, trapped and ventilated	...	4
„ additional W.C's. provided	... ..	39
„ „ ashpits „	... ..	33
„ privies and ashpits converted to W.C's. or slop-closets. 18 privies to 14 W.'Cs.		
Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	...	1,383
„ „ privies and ashpits cleansed, 845 privies, 788 ashpits		1,633
„ „ portable receptacles cleansed, 25 pans cleansed weekly		
„ „ loads of ashes and excrement removed	}	4,808
„ „ „ „ refuse removed		
„ wells closed as polluted	... ..	1
„ houses supplied from waterworks (during year)		45
„ slaughter houses registered or licensed	...	8
„ „ „ regularly inspected	..	8
„ „ „ cleansed and repaired	...	8
„ Factories and Workshops under inspection	...	284
„ persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision	... ..	9
„ cases of removal, on notice, of animals kept so as to be a nuisance	... ..	6
„ removals of accumulation of offensive refuse	...	1
„ official letters written	... ..	170
„ notices served	... ..	27
„ „ complied with	... ..	21
„ „ outstanding	... ..	6

*Remarks:—*

The house refuse is systematically removed by the Council's own men.

Signed,

WILLIAM WHITWORTH,

January 10th 1905.

Sanitary Inspector.

